Assistive Technology: Improving Lives Daily

A conference for people with disabilities, families and professionals

THURSDAY November 18, 2004 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Crowne Plaza at the Crossings Warwick, RI

Assistive Technology: Improving Lives Daily

Assistive technology can play a critical role in the life of a person with a disability. With a wide range of presentations and an exhibit hall offering new product demonstrations and information,
Assistive Technology: Improving Lives Daily will offer conference participants the opportunity to learn what a powerful impact assistive technology can have in improving the lives of all people with disabilities.

Conference Schedule

7:30-8:30 Registration and Coffee

8:30-10:00 Session I

10:00-3:30 Exhibit Hall open

10:30-12:00 Session II

12:00-1:30 Lunch and Awards

1:30-3:00 Session III

This conference made possible by:

Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP),
Office of Rehabilitation Services
RI Department of Education, Office of Special Needs
RI Department of Health, Disability & Health Program
The Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities
TechACCESS of RI

Conference Sponsors: (as of this printing)

Kurzweil Educational Systems

Ocean State Center for Independent Living

Presentations

Session I - 8:30AM - 10:00AM

A. Adapting Books Using Boardmaker® Symbols: You Don't Have to Start From Scratch!

This presentation will provide an easy and quick method of adapting hundreds of well-known children's books for students who are early readers or non-readers. It will also address generating communication boards to support students with severe speech impairments and generating comprehension questions for the students to answer.

Joanne Heffernan and Sally Cole-Major, TechACCESS of RI

B. Tools for Learning: Technologies for Students with Learning Disabilities and Differences

The use of common desktop software and online tools to develop effective learning strategies and study skills will be demonstrated. *Kathleen H. McClaskey, EdTech Associates, Inc, NH*

C. AT Competencies for RI Educators: Quality Standards for Professionals Introduction of the RI Department of Education's draft <u>AT Competencies for RI</u> Educators and its potential impact on professional development. Kimberly Rothwell-Carson, RI Department of Education; Lisa Labitt, East Bay Educational Collaborative, RI; Betsy Dalton, Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities, RI

D. OT and AT: Double Teaming for Successful Writing

Helping students become successful writers using an innovative approach of occupational therapy and assistive technology strategies with the SETT framework. *Cynthia Grob and Lou Baish, WSWHE BOCES, NY*

E. Developing Low-Tech Solutions for People who are Blind and Visually Impaired*

Hands-on presentation of low-tech assistive technology based on actual case scenarios. Adriana Carpio and Steve Famiglietti, Vision Dynamics, CT

*Presentation by a product vendor.

Session II - 10:30AM - 12:00NOON

F. Using the STAGES® Framework as a Strategy for Designing Curriculum and Assessment for Learners with Cognitive and Language Challenges

An exploration of Stages®, a researchbased decision-making framework, for selecting software and devices used for assessment and technology planning. Madalaine Pugliese, Simmons College, MA

G. Accessibility to Curriculum with the Use of Low Tech Communicators

Using Boardmaker® icons as low-tech communication and teaching tools in school, therapy, home and community settings. Kenny Duva and Paula Fortin, North Kingstown School Department, RI

H. The Role of Assistive Technology in Universal Design

In a framework of universal design that guides the creation of physical, social, and learning environments for all students, assistive technology enables access for learners with disabilities. *Cynthia Curry and Dale Blanchard, ALLTech, ME*

I. Rock, Rap, and Roll: Including the Child Receiving Special Education Services in Music Experiences

Presentation by a certified Music Therapist of innovative ways to use AT to support students' participation in a variety of musical experiences. Crystal King, Massachusetts Hospital School, MA

J. Combining New Housing Types and New Technologies for Life Enhancing Home-based Care for People with Disabilities*

Introducing the concept of HealingHomes®, self-contained living suites as an alternative to assisted living and nursing homes.

Jeff Mason, HealingHomes, Inc., RI

*Presentation by a product vendor.

Session III - 1:30PM - 3:00PM

K. Working with STAGES®: A Hands-on Computer Session

Opportunity for hands-on exploration with the Stages® framework, under the instruction of Madalaine Pugliese, program developer.

Madalaine Pugliese, Simmons College, MA * Maximum of 20 Participants. Due to space limitations, this presentation requires pre-registration. See registration form.

L. Selecting, Acquiring, and Using High-Tech AAC Devices in a School Setting

Presentation of case studies using high-tech dynamic devices to participate in classroom activities. *Jeannine Carrubba and Marisa Cucé, Meeting Street, RI*

M. Assistive Technology for Literacy: Digital Text

Discussion of methods for obtaining, creating, and using digital texts to enhance reading and writing skills.

Rick Mills and Dale Blanchard, ALLTech, ME

N. Left Brained in a Right Brained World, Creative Thinking in a Nutshell: Applications to Assistive Technology

Presenting a creative problem solving process in the context of assistive technology applications.

Lou Esposito, BioWexus, Inc., CT

O. The Assistive Technology for Health Project - One Year Update

Report on this collaborative project which is studying the impact of communication and assistive technology devices on the health and well-being of Rhode Island elders. Kathleen Fresher-Samways, PARI, RI; Rebecca Simon, TechACCESS of RI

Presentation of products or content does not imply endorsement by the Conference or its sponsors.

Partial List of Exhibitors: (as of this printing)

Assistive Technology Access Partnership Adaptive Driving Program, Inc. Adaptive Technology Consulting, Inc. Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan Program Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation Freedom Scientific BLV Group HealingHomes, Inc. Independence HomeHealthWares Kurzweil Educational Systems National Federation of the Blind of RI New England ADA & Accessible IT Center Ocean State Center for Independent Living Patient Lifts of New England Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities Sargent Rehabilitation Center Surehands & National Ramps by Lift & Care Systems, Inc. TechACCESS of RI

Registration Information

- 1. Registration is limited to 300.
- 2. A sit down luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. A vegetarian meal will be available with pre-registration.
- 3. Personal Attendants accompanying individuals may attend the conference at no charge; however, if they require a lunch, the cost is \$15.00 per attendant.
- While every effort will be made to respond to requests for accommodations, none, including individual session interpreters, can be guaranteed if requested after Friday, October 15.
- 5. Scholarship help may be available; contact TechACCESS of RI.
- Participants are requested to avoid wearing scents, in consideration of those having chemical sensitivity.
- 7. CRC's and PDC's will be available.
- 8. There will be a CART reporter and an ASL Interpreter available at the luncheon.
- 9. Make check payable to:
 TechACCESS of Rhode Island
 110 Jefferson Blvd., Ste. I
 Warwick, RI 02888-3854
 (401)463-0202 (Voice/TDD), Fax (401)463-3433
 (800) 916-TECH (8324) in state

Directions to the Crowne Plaza

Crowne Plaza

801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI (401) 732-6000

95 North Bound (from New York) -Take Exit 12A, bear right before light, hotel is on the right.

95 South Bound (from Boston) -Take Exit 12A, bear right before light, hotel is on the right.



Bus Information: Bus #13-East Greenwich (30-40 minutes from downtown Providence)

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Name as it will appear on nametag:	Agency/School:	Address:	City, State, Zip:	Phone:	 I am attending the conference as a: (check all that apply □ person with a disability □ family member □ profession 	Pre-registration for Working with Stages®: A Hands-on Computer session □ Please register me for this session.	Accommodations requested: (must be received by Oct. 15, 2004)	☐ Large Print	□ Braille	Cassette Tape	Sighted Guide	☐ Spanish Interpreter ☐ Other:_



Call TechACCESS for brochure in alternative formats 800-916-TECH (8324) in state or 401-463-0202

If you receive multiple copies of this brochure, please pass along extras to someone who might be interested.

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